

Exhibit 3: Project Support Letters

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CONSULTANTS
KEVIN GILHOOLEY
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WADE PENG
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California State Senate

TOM HARMAN
SENATOR

THIRTY-FIFTH SENATE DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
RULES
VICE CHAIR
JUDICIARY
VICE CHAIR
PUBLIC SAFETY
TRANSPORTATION
& HOUSING



October 4, 2011

RE: SUPPORT for Orange County Coastkeeper's eelgrass restoration project in Upper Newport Bay.

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to provide my strong support for the Orange County Coastkeeper's restoration of eelgrass habitat in the Upper Newport Bay. This restoration project continues to create habitat, refuge, nursery grounds, food, and sediment stabilization in the Upper Newport Bay, allowing both flora and fauna to flourish.

The Orange County Coastkeeper is a progressive force combining public education with research. A curriculum developed by the Orange County Coast Keeper, based on State of California content standards, has been widely utilized by Life Science and Biology classes at local Junior and High Schools. In addition, this curriculum has proven to be a special asset for English Language Learners throughout Orange County. These attributes generate an understanding and appreciation for sensitive habitat and "plant the seed" for long-term eelgrass restoration in the Upper Newport Bay.

I am pleased to count myself as an ardent supporter of Orange County Coastkeeper's collaborative efforts to restore eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay, as well as educating the public about the ecological value of this critical habitat. Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

TOM HARMAN
Senator, 35th District



Exhibit 3: Project Support Letters
State of California - The Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201
www.dfg.ca.gov

EDMUND G. BROWN, JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



October 20, 2011

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for The Upper Newport Bay Community-Based Eelgrass Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The California Department of Fish and Game offers staff support, and the Back Bay Science Center's teaching lab facilities, for eelgrass restoration and education efforts in the Newport Back Bay. The Back Bay Science Center (BBSC) provides the ideal setting for growing, monitoring, and studying eelgrass for restoration projects in Upper Newport Bay.

Through grants from the California Coastal Commission and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and funding from the City of Newport Beach, Coastkeeper and DFG were able to launch the Newport Bay Eelgrass Project in 2009. Thus far, we have designed curriculum, and built outdoor and indoor eelgrass growing systems and will conduct research and education activities through 2011. We are committed to expanding and improving this project in coming years, with the goal of protecting and restoring eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay. DFG will continue to provide our facilities and equipment for pilot restoration activities, and dedicate intern and volunteer hours to the joint education and restoration project.

Please count the California Department of Fish & Game as part of the collaborative effort it will require to restore eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay, as well as educate the public about the ecological value of this critical habitat.

Sincerely,

Robin Madrid
Education Program Coordinator

Carla Navarro
Reserve Manager



October 4, 2011

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

RECREATION & SENIOR SERVICES

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for the Upper Newport Bay Community-Based Eelgrass Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing this letter to pledge The City of Newport Beach's partnership in the Upper Newport Bay Community-Based Eelgrass Restoration Project.

The City of Newport Beach has a history of active involvement and stewardship of our natural heritage and resources. The Marine Protection and Education Office within the City's Recreation and Senior Services Department works to protect habitat, maintain biological diversity and preserve natural areas for research, education and recreation.

Through grants from the California Coastal Commission and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and funding from the City of Newport Beach, Coastkeeper and DFG were able to launch the Newport Bay Eelgrass Project in 2009. The City of Newport Beach has been a vital part of the eelgrass education component of the Project since its inception and acknowledges the importance of eelgrass both ecologically and economically in Newport Harbor within its adopted Land Use Plan. We recognize the need to balance conservation of our harbor's natural resources with the need to maintain the economic viability of Newport Harbor as one of the largest recreational boat harbors on the U.S. west coast.

We are committed to expanding and improving this project in coming years, with the goal of protecting and restoring eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay. The City of Newport Beach will continue to support Coastkeeper's eelgrass education and restoration project in the years to come as part of the collaborative effort it will require to restore eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay, as well as educate the public about the ecological value of this critical habitat.

Sincerely,

Michelle Claud-Clemente

Marine Protection and Education Supervisor
Recreation and Senior Services Department
City of Newport Beach

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OCT 12 2011

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.